GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:5
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2002
FOREIGN VISIT BY MINISTER
ALE NARENDRA;SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he visited United States of America and other countries recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the purpose of visit;

(c) the outcome of the visit;

(d) whether the Government have signed any treaty/MoUs during the visit;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government have sought any assistance from USA to fight against International Terrorism; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of USA thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a) to (g): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 5 due for answer on 26.02.2002

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. The Union Home Minister Shri L.K. Advani accompanied by a high level official delegation visited USA from 8th January to 13th January, 2002 at the invitation of the U.S. Attorney General. During his visit he met US Vice-President, Secretary of State, National Security Advisor and other dignitaries, Besides this, HM also met US foreign policy experts and academicians, the Governor of New York, Indian community, Indian-American Groups, members of think tanks and the media.

Besides holding a comprehensive dialogue with his US interlocutors on the global dimensions of terrorism, Home Minister was able to project during the visit India`s concerns on Pakistan sponsored cross-border terrorism in India and Pakistan`s role and responsibility in the context of the attack on the Parliament of India on 13th December, 2001.

(d): No, Sir.

(e): Does not arise.

(f) & (g): India and US have decided to jointly combat the menace of international terrorism. The existing institutional mechanism in the form of Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism meets at regular intervals. New areas of cooperation in the field of counter-terrorism have been identified and appropriate steps initiated.